

Remarks/Arguments:

Claim 1 is pending.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,394,913). This ground for rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 includes features neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited art, namely:

... a diameter of an inner circumference of the suspension holder is greater than an outer diameter of the voice coil body while a diameter of an inner circumference of the diaphragm is greater than the diameter of the inner circumference of the suspension holder ... (Emphasis Added)

Matsuda et al. disclose, in Fig. 2, speaker 10 including speaker cone 8 and damper 2 that are secured to voice coil bobbin 3 with adhesive A. Damper 2 is placed between frame 1 and voice coil bobbin 3. Speaker cone 8 is coupled to a leading end of voice coil bobbin 3. (Column 2, lines 29-32 and lines 41-56). Speaker 10 also includes damper ring 11 fitted around and fixed to a portion of voice coil bobbin 3 behind the coupling positions to damper 2 and speaker cone 8. (Column 2, lines 53-56).

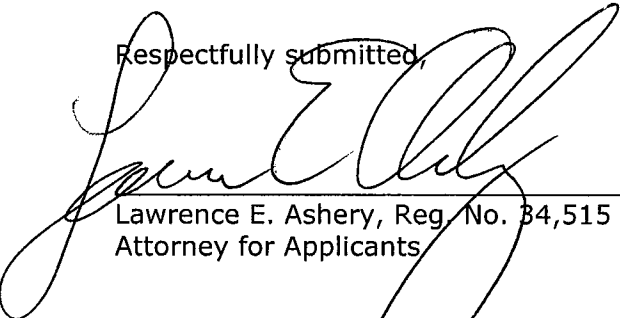
Matsuda et al., however, do not disclose or suggest that an inner circumference diameter of the suspension holder (referred to herein as a suspension diameter) is greater than an outer diameter of the voice coil body (referred to herein as a voice coil diameter) while an inner circumference diameter of the diaphragm (referred to herein as a diaphragm diameter) is greater than the suspension diameter, as required by claim 1. In other words, according to claim 1, the diaphragm diameter > the suspension diameter > the voice coil diameter. These features are neither disclosed nor suggested by Matsuda et al. Instead, Matsuda et al. teach damper 2 being mechanically connected to bobbin 3 (Fig. 2). Thus, at best, the suspension diameter (of damper 2) is equal to the voice coil diameter (of voice

coil bobbin 3). Thus, the suspension diameter (of damper 2) cannot be greater than the voice coil diameter (of voice coil bobbin 3), as required by claim 1.

In addition, Matsuda et al. do not disclose or suggest that the Figures are to scale and do not disclose or suggest any dimensions for damper 2 and speaker cone 8. Applicants note that proportions of features in a drawing are not evidence of actual proportions when drawings are not to scale. (MPEP § 2125). Because Matsuda et al. are silent regarding any limitations for the diameters of damper 2, voice coil bobbin 3 and speaker cone 8 (shown in Fig. 2) and are also silent on the drawings being to scale, the diameters of damper 2, speaker cone 8 and voice coil bobbin 3 may not be relied upon. Accordingly, Matsuda et al. cannot disclose or suggest that a diaphragm diameter is greater than a suspension diameter and that a suspension diameter is greater than a voice coil diameter, as recited in claim 1. Thus, Matsuda et al. do not include all of the features of claim 1. Accordingly, allowance of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

In view of the arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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